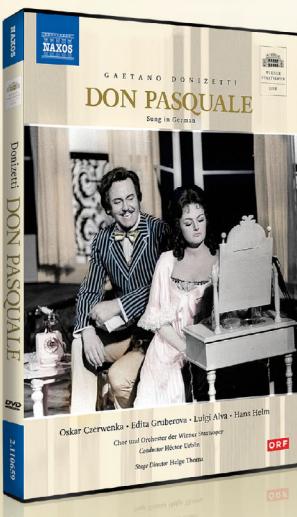


GAETANO DONIZETTI
DON PASQUALE



Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* represents the high point of the Italian *buffa* tradition, a sparkling comedy using characters from *commedia dell'arte* in ways that are entertaining, witty and playful. It was the work selected by the Vienna State Opera for its 1977 tour through Austria. Starring famous singers like the bass Oskar Czerwenka, the great lyric tenor Luigi Alva and, on the cusp of international fame, Edita Gruberová (soon to become the 'queen of *bel canto*') – this filmed performance, in colour and sung in German, showcases an outstanding ensemble at the height of its powers.



Dramma buffo in three acts (five scenes) (1842)
 Libretto by Giovanni Ruffini and Gaetano Donizetti after Angelo Anelli
 Sung in German
 German version adapted by Joachim Popelka

Don Pasquale, an elderly bachelor
 Norina, a youthful widow
 Doctor Malatesta, his physician
 Ernesto, Don Pasquale's nephew
 A Notary

OSKAR CZERWENKA Bass
EDITA GRUBEROVÁ Soprano
HANS HELM Baritone
LUIGI ALVA Tenor
ALOIS PERNERSTORFER
 Bass-baritone

CHOR DER WIENER STAATSOPERA
ORCHESTER DER WIENER STAATSOPERA
 Conductor **HÉCTOR URBÓN**

Stage Director **HELGE THOMA**
 Set Designer **MATTHIAS KRALI**

Video Director **WOLFGANG LESOWSKY**
 Filmed on 30 March 1977 at the Volkshaus, Mürzzuschlag during the
 Vienna State Opera's first tour through various cities in Austria

A production of ORF